

# Ghost Trackers Newsletter

The Official Paranormal Publication of the Ghost Research Society



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The Ghost Trackers Newsletter is the official paranormal publication of the Ghost Research Society. The GRS was founded in 1978 by Martin V. Riccardo and this publication soon followed in September of 1982. It is published and edited by Dale D. Kaczmarek, President and is put out in February, June and October.

The **Ghost Research Society** is a membership organization devoted to collecting, analyzing and researching all forms of the paranormal with an emphasis on ghosts, hauntings, poltergeists and life after death. Different memberships are available for those wishing to become more actively involved. We are also looking for officers, State Coordinators, Field Investigators and Area Research Directors for various states and countries.

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## Editors page:



A number of interesting people have recently made their transition to the other side during 1996 and I wish to dedicate this newsletter to their memory. Firstly, I was informed from Richard Leshuk of the International Fortean Organization that the former president of that organization, Raymond Manners, had passed away. I first met Mr. Manners while on an investigation at Brown Mountain, North Carolina to view the Brown Mountain ghost lights. He was most helpful during our visit to the area and we became steadfast friends. Soon after our meeting, he introduced me to INFO, The International Fortean Organization, which I became a member and spoke at one of their annual conferences. Unfortunately, after a falling out with INFO, Mr. Manners moved on to create another Fortean-based newsletter called *Pebbles* which also unfortunately did not go very far. He was a true Fortean and a great researcher and friend and he will be sorely missed.

After receiving and reading the newsletter for the American Association for Electronic Voice Phenomena compiled by Sarah Estep, I learned that Paul Johnson, Founder and President of SAC (Spiritual Advisory Council) passed away on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Despite failing health for over a year, he continued to put out his monthly newsletter and held his yearly summer conference at Lake Forest College, Illinois last summer. Although, I never met him personally, I did continue to receive his SAC newsletter and greatly admired his work.

Jeane Dixon, 79, the astrologer and psychic who acquired fame for predicting President John F. Kennedy's death, died January 25<sup>th</sup> in Washington, D.C. Parade magazine quoted her in 1956 as forecasting a Democratic president, elected in 1960, would die in office. Dixon also predicted that World War III would start in 1958 and the Russians would be the first to put a man on the moon. On the two latter predictions, thank god, she was incorrect.

Thanks to: Tom Perrott for the numerous SPR Journals, crop circle video tapes and books including "Scotland: Myth and Legends", Donna Boonstra, Randy Liebeck, Elaine Dohnal, Mark Gordon, Michelle Liss, Troy Taylor and Marie Kasperek for their donations of alleged spirit photographs for analysis. For clippings, I wish to thank; Linda Haluska, David Blische, and Ken Welch. Additional thanks go out to Ed Okonowicz for his book "*In The Vestible*". Troy Taylor for his two latest books, "*Ghosts Of Milliken*" and "*Where The Dead Walk: The Haunted History of Greenwood Cemetery*" and his "*Ghosts Of Decatur*" video tape which is now available for purchase, Joshua Warren for his book "*Haunted Asheville*", Ken Welch for a video tape he sent me regarding the Black Forest Haunting and Randy Liebeck for the video he sent me regarding his most recent television appearances.

Thanks to: F.S. Miller, Donna Boonstra and Linda Haluska for their Halloween cards and Barbara Huyser, Ursula Bielski, Tom Perrott, Chris Woodyard, Donna Boonstra, Randy Liebeck, Dennis Hauck, Richard Senate, Troy Taylor and Mark Gordon for their Christmas cards.

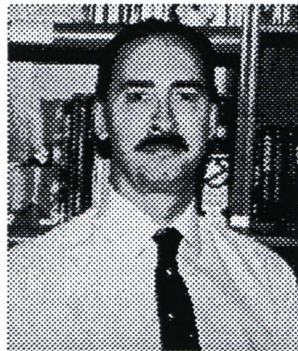
# Ghost Research Society

I would like to congratulate John Lamb on being appointed an Area Research Director of southern California. As you already know, Dennis Hauck is the California State Coordinator and John Lamb will be his direct subordinate. Due to the largeness of the state, several officials are required to properly address the entire region. Mr. Lamb will report directly to Mr. Hauck.

New Patron Member is: Ken Welch; Contributing Members are, Joyce O'Brien (England), Karen Muchnick, Len Squire, Malconna Booth and Melissa Griffith; Sustaining Members are, Sean Kuhl, John Lamb, Brian Floyd, Cheryl Larkey and Douglas McDonough. Glad to have you all aboard. Since the last edition we have added nine new members and received renewals from six veteran members. Welcome to the GRS and thank you!

The newsletter of the quarter is *Up Close* a quarterly review of New Age and Alternative Publications compiled by Darla Sims. Volume 1, Number 1 was issued in Summer of 1996 and the focus of the publication is exactly that; to review new and older publications still in print concerning the paranormal in general. Subscriptions are: \$40/yr U.S.; \$45 Canada; \$50 Foreign with samples \$10 each. For more information and subscriptions write to: Darla Simss Publications, PO Box 12280, Mill Creek, WA. 98082-0280 or FAX: 206-485-7926. Be sure to mention the GRS and this publication when requesting information or purchasing a subscription!

I am still in the planning *Indiana Tour* which is scheduled of 1997. If you haven't received write and I'll be sure you receive seriously interested, you can regarding prices, complete request that package and I'll ship



stages of the long-awaited *Mysterious* for the weekend of August 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> your informational flyer please call or one pronto. For those who are request more detailed information itinerary, and booking requirements, it out just as soon as it's available.

I hope that each and every one of you like the new look of the publication. I have recently purchased an HP 4P flatbed color scanner that enables me to add both graphics and scanned images directly into the newsletter. I will be improving on the quality of each edition as I learn the many features that are available to me. Starting with this issue, I will have a page devoted to spirit photography in which I will profile an interesting paranormal photograph that I have received over the years from both members and readers of this publication. I will give the history of each photograph and my general analysis of what I believe the image(s) to be. If you have a paranormal photograph you would like to have analyzed and perhaps appear in a future issue of GT newsletter, send it along with as much information as you can regarding the circumstances behind the picture taking in care of Dale Kaczmarek and this newsletter. Be sure to include whether or not you wish the image to appear in a future edition and permission to use your name or not.

I will also be able to use the scanner and computer software to properly analyze paranormal photographs. This will greatly increase the speed and efficiency of the entire analysis process.



# Ghost Hunt at La Purisma

*Richard Senate*

She was convinced she was right, that her psychic vision was true. I smile as I thought the image she reported wasn't historically accurate. She described seeing the phantom figure of a soldier at the restored Mission La Purisma. She accurately described his feeling of lonesomeness (no doubt accurate then as now with members of the military) and the smallest details of his colorful red, white and blue uniform. The uniform was all wrong. Little did I know I would soon be forced to reconsider my hasty judgement.

The reports of a La Purisma State Historic stimulated me to organize a determining if the sightings years a number of events had none were as dramatic as the one of the Park Rangers one and psychics to tour the site on the rumors of psychic disappointed in our adventure, experienced at least one team members saw what they sighting by Ms. HW of the significant.

The group had been the grounds and record any the Mission complex. They forms others had seen at the the park.

We gathered to area under the oak trees. The seen the apparition listened as recounted their findings that when he heard the woman soldier she encountered in the barracks building of the mission.

When I informed the woman the uniform she described didn't fit any of the uniforms of Spain or Mexico he only shook his head. He broke into the conversation, informing us that the priest at the Mission was having trouble securing supplies from Mexico, due to early battles of the Mexican War of Independence. He had journeyed to the Russian colony, at Fort Ross in Northern California, to trade wheat and beef to the starving Russian settlers in exchange for items needed at the Missions. One of those badly needed things were uniforms for the soldiers. That, said the Ranger, might explain the odd configuration of colors the psychic had seen, for Czarist



ghostly monk appearing at the Park in Lompoc, had ghost hunt in hopes of were above board. Over the been recorded at the site, but sighting of a ghost monk by night. I invited 12 students and assist me in collecting data activity. We were not over 50% of the team unexplainable event. Three believed to be ghosts. The soldier was perhaps the most



given maps and told to wander and all feelings they had about were not told of the phantom place or of the new sightings at

compare notes in the picnic Park Ranger who had himself members of the team morning. His ears perked up describe the uniform of the

Russian uniforms were red, white and blue!

Two of the team members had seen what appeared to be the exact same apparition at different times, and independently of one another. They saw a figure in a black robe and cowl. The Franciscan padres wore robes of grey but the figure seemed to be from their time and remains a mystery. Others encountered cold spots, phantom sounds and other images, a woman and a small child. One of the psychic members, Ms. TB, saw what she described as a large dog. "A greyhound," she said. And that he was the envy of the Mission Indians, because he ate better than the native people at the Mission, and was a prized member of the community used in both hunting and sport by the European padres. The dog could do whatever he wished and was seen panting through the rooms by the psychic. These impressions were compared to other findings and seems to imply the Mission is indeed going through some psychic transformation or upheaval. It may well continue for the next four weeks, if not months, with even more sightings possible. We came away convinced that something is happening at the old Mission in Lompoc and that more investigations are needed. The Park is one of the best kept secrets in California and a must-see for anyone interested in early history of California, as well as anyone interested in the phenomena of ghosts and haunted places. If you go, keep an open mind and be watchful for the black-robed monk or the Mexican soldier wearing a Russian uniform.

Submitted by: Richard Senate, 3127 Trinity Dr., Ventura, CA. 93003.



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# *Strange Ghostly Experiences*

*Susan Mantle*

Report by Susan Mantle, (WRAPS) West Riding Association of Psychic Studies

(Preface by Editor: The following is an article submitted to SPI by Susan Mantle, wife of Philip Mantle, BUFORA'S Director of Investigations. Susan had asked SPI to become involved with this case, but due to work commitments, I was unable to travel down and assist. However, Susan and her research group took-up the case, and what follows is their reports on the case).

Wendy Graham Case 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1995. Investigator Susan Mantle, Location: Burnley, England.

I received this case from Malcolm Robinson who was unable to get down to investigate. I rang Wendy up and found her to be a most sincere young lady, and it was obvious that she was very much afraid of what seemed to have taken over her house. We fixed a time that would suit us both which was the third of April 1995 and I went over to see her with Philip. Wendy was so glad that someone had at least taken her serious enough to visit themselves, and Wendy and her family made us very welcome, and I have to say they were very sincere about what they had to tell.

It all began when Wendy moved into her house in Burnley, (her mother lives close by). She began by saying that she was living in torment, and that her son and herself had suffered greatly. She moved into the house in May 1992, her son was 7 months old at the time. From the first night of moving in, her son stopped sleeping through the night and he would rock his cot frantically to get out, this was not like him at all. As soon as he was able, he would climb out his cot and go into Wendy's room wanting to be with her, so she put him in a bed as she thought this might help, and also put a baby gate up, but even with this, he would not stay in the room. He would rock it till it fell apart. He was so determined to get out, that he even pulled at the door until it came off its hinges.

It got to the point where she could not get him into the room, she tried all sorts of things, even putting posters up on the walls. She got rid of the wardrobe in case it was that which bothered him. She thought that he must be an over-active child, and never thought that it was due to anything in particular, but she does recall never feeling relaxed in the house. So she gave in, and had him sleep in her bed and has done so ever since. Now on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 1995, Wendy had three young friends staying over for the night who she knows very well, they were aged 6, 9, and 11. The two younger boys went to bed no bother and were sound asleep in no time. Then, when the older one went up to bed, he was in there for about ten minutes when all of a sudden this 11 year old came out shouting and sobbing down the stairs. It took Wendy some time to calm him down before he would tell her what happened, he was in such a distressed state. He said that something had got into the bed with him and he had put his hands over his ears and something was trying to pull his hands away, this gave him a pins and needles feeling. Now since that night other things have started to happen. Wendy had heard scratching very loud coming from the loft like very big rats, but when she got the Inspectors in there was no sign of any rats,



mice or birds.

She tried having pets but had no success, they would not stay, either cats or dogs. But then she got a little kitten that was almost dead, and it has been fine with them, but it will not leave her side; it used to tap at the kitchen cupboard when it wanted a biscuit. Sometimes Wendy would put something against the cupboard to stop it, and on this one night she was watching the TV when she heard it as loud as ever, but she was terrified because the cat was on her lap and there was nothing there.

One night her mother came to babysit, and Daryl her son was asleep so her mother sat downstairs, then all of a sudden she heard a lot of banging and also drawers being opened and closed. It was 12:15 and she ran upstairs to see if Daryl was out of bed, but he was sound asleep and there was nothing out of place that she could see.

She has since moved out of the house over to her mother's because it bothers her that much, but she goes back over for things every now and then, and almost every time she does, there is something out of place. Things have been moved and lights are on which were not on before. The woman in the house next door is so bothered by the noises that come out of Wendy's house when she is not there, that she had to get a priest in to bless her house, but still she gets the noises. There is no house at the other side of Wendy's. The neighbor can't stand it any longer so she has written to the council to ask them to do something.

Now when Wendy goes back to the house with Daryl, he screams and kicks and won't go in, and now he won't even go as far as the front gate. Wendy recalls a strange thing that happened to her last year; a friend of hers came to babysit while Wendy went to a wedding, she was 8 months pregnant and she took ill while at Wendy's house. She had to be taken to a hospital. Sadly she lost the baby, they had it on a machine. At 2:00 AM they turned the machine off and at that same moment back at Wendy's home, a large mirror that was screwed between the two wardrobe doors, unscrewed itself as Wendy watched and fell gently to the floor and did not break. She put it at the top of the stairs and Daryl at the time would talk to it as though it was a person and would take it toys to play with so she got rid of the mirror. Her mother has a room with large mirrors in and Daryl never bothers with them.

Wendy has taken her son to the doctor's and he is undergoing treatment from a psychiatrist. Wendy also told us of another incident that happened with someone else who was baby sitting for her, it was a friend of their local council man, and she said she would never go there again. She saw saucepans levitating before her eyes and was frightened to death. So I then went back home and made some phone calls to the group that I am part of which is WRAPS (West Riding Association of Psychic Studies), and we asked a local medium if she would go across and see what she could do. She agreed, and so we went back over on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April with also a friend (another medium) of the medium we had asked to help us. After a good hour they said it would be alright now. They claim that it was monks, and that it used to be some kind of garden there with a large building but not a monastery. They both claimed that the paranormal activity should slow down somewhat.

I have been in touch with Wendy since that date and she says that the house has been fine so far, and she feels almost at rest with it. I have written to the other residents on the block to ask if any of them have had anything unusual, but as yet, no reply. I have also written to a local historian, and again I am waiting on a reply. The mediums in question are Janet Vaughan and



Phyllis Long.

(Editors comment: Although I didn't actually investigate this case, I have talked several times on the phone to Wendy and it was clear to me that this lady was very much distressed by what was going on at the time. Thankfully all is now quiet. )

WRAPS was originally formed from the remainder of a night school class in 1993. Now however WRAPS is a membership association which allows its members to explore any and all aspects of the paranormal. Unlike a night school, WRAPS has no set syllabus to follow, but is instead lead by the interest of its membership. WRAPS also provides outings to places of interest, plus workshops and with a selection of guest speakers on a variety of topics, it seeks to provide a friendly atmosphere in which its members may develop or explore all aspects of the paranormal. WRAPS also have their own bi-monthly newsletter. To find out more about WRAPS and their meetings, write with a stamped addressed envelope to: Mike Sanders, 16 Glen Mount, Morley, West Yorkshire, England LS27 9HH. (Tel: 0113 253 3762) or Susan Mantle, 1 Woodhall Dr., Healy Lane, Batley, West Yorkshire, England WF17 7SW (Tel: 01924 444 049).

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# The Role-Playing Ghost

*Maurice Schwalb*

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I recently found a ghost that prefers to haunt an empty house that it has no connection with. We think of ghosts as they relate to live people and occupied houses. But maybe that is only the tip of the iceberg. What if houses presently unused by man and the space cubes formed in another dimension where our houses stood that have now been destroyed are haunted? How would we know? We never look up in the air at the site of venerable diggings to see if there is a light passing by a now invisible window or listen for a footstep on a stair no longer tread by mortal man.

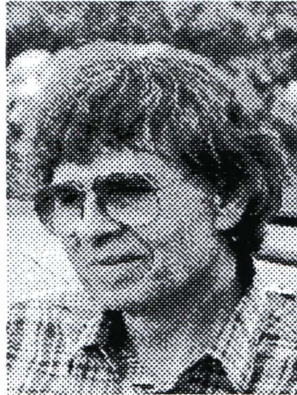
The house in question deserted for several years and no It is a two story frame and stone room and moving debris children seem to have moved with have forced them to abandon so privacy fence keep its condition gate is not locked and the house curious. It has even acquired a

It was reported to me by reputation. A diminutive abandoned house she encounters see what is new. She even carries a camera and attempts a photo of anything she sees moving rather than moving away from the phantasm. She has been doing this all of her adult life. Perhaps because she found what proved to be an enchanted empty farm house as a child. That house, she found, had indeed existed but had been torn down twenty-five years ago. Or at least, so she was told by an incredulous relative who recognized the house from her description.

That explained everything but the unseen voices that caused her to leave without even trying the front door. Now, I think, she would try the door and attempt to tape the voices. She did see something in this house. Her photo shows a slight fog in the room. That was my starting point.

When I went in the house, I too was aware of a presence. I just thought one of my group was there until I looked around. Then I realized it was the same flashy blond form I had been getting glimpses of for the previous week. My attention was then drawn to an abandoned watercolor on the floor of a blond on horseback. It was the same person!

The entire history of the house back to its construction in 1932 was checked but the assumption was that the blond woman was our ghost. The house had no history that would be



certainly looks haunted. It has been one has bothered to disguise that fact. house with broken windows in every everywhere. The last family and its unseemly haste. What force could much? Three acres of land and a from being painfully obvious. But the has frequently approached by the small reputation.

one of those who helped create that housewife who pokes into every as she drives about the city looking to



suggestive of a haunting and the blond was the last occupant and simply left in a hurry because of a legal dispute.

It seems the ghost moved in when she left because it liked her vibrations and was even able to assume her appearance when its own colorless identity was probed.

Submitted by: Maurice Schwalm, PO Box 3522, Kansas City, KS. 66103-0522.

## **WEIRD N.J.**

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# *Ghosts of the Japanese Internment Camps*

*Dennis William Hauck*

Houses built on the site of a World War II Processing Center for Japanese-Americans are haunted by ghosts from that traumatic era. During 1942, thousands of people passed through the center on their way to the main Japanese Internment Camp at Tule Lake in northern California. According to records, as many as eleven Japanese died at the Citrus Heights Processing Center before they could be transported to the main camp.

The Japanese Processing Center was located in Citrus Heights, a northeast suburb of Sacramento. The area now development situated northwest of and Roseville Road. About ten compound seem to be affected. wooden building now being used as complex.

The earliest reported when a family encountered the home. Then, the same apparition the neighborhood. The spirit going from house to house up the down the block. In 1989, several local psychic Robyn Street to help Robyn has now worked to clear the Citrus Heights area.



encompasses a 1980's housing the intersection of Antelope Road houses built on top of the former One center of activity, a small a garage, was part of the original

paranormal events date back to 1982, ghost of a Japanese man in their started showing up in other houses in seemed to follow a regular pattern, block, cross the street and head back families got together and called in them deal with the lingering presence. spirits in ten different households in

I became involved in the case when I was contacted by a family in Citrus Heights who reported seeing the ghost of an elderly Japanese couple materializing in their dining room and spare bedroom. Their sightings also started in 1982, but unlike the other homes in the haunted area, this house is about fifty years old. The garage was part of the original processing compound and was used as a barracks to temporarily house displaced Japanese-Americans.

Most of the time the couple appears together as if they are posing for a picture, but the ghostly Japanese man has also been seen leaning next to the garage. Paranormal events seem to decrease if the bedroom door is kept shut and locked.

Japanese faces have been seen and photographed looking out of a heater in the hall connecting the bedroom and dining room. Both ghosts appeared in the living room, when the family brought home a new born child from the hospital.

The apparitions of the Japanese couple have been seen outside the house too, ususally under a large tree in the front yard. On one occasion, the owner of the house approached their



ghostly outlines under the tree and was *slimed* by a thick, clear liquid. If present family members talk disrespectfully about the ghosts, the old wooden fence around their property starts vibrating violently.

The family is not interested in publicity. They only want to be rid of the ghostly presences in their home - pathetic presences which date back to a dark period in American history.

(Robyn Street: 3550 Watt Ave. Ste. 140, Sacramento, CA. 95821 Tel: 916-973-9500)

Submitted by: Dennis Hauck, California State Coordinator for the GRS, PO Box 22201, Sacramento, CA. 95822. Mr. Hauck is also the author of the newly revised and released book, *The National Directory of Haunted Places*, recently published by Penguin Books.



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## Ghostly Shorts

About two years ago, a close friend of mine passed away. She was a kind, elderly lady that I was very fond of. I had known her for several years and we were good friends. Her name was Helen.

One of Helen's favorite treats was Fannie Mae chocolates. On holidays, birthdays and special occasions, I always tried to buy her candy. After Helen died, one day, which happened to be Valentine's Day, I decided to again bring her some candy. I left one piece of candy on her grave marker. Several days later, I stopped by the cemetery and found that the candy was gone! On the next holiday, Easter, I did the same thing. Again, several days later, the candy disappeared.

I don't know what to really think except that I hope Helen somehow enjoyed the candy in a ghost form. Maybe she returned to her final resting place just to get her favorite chocolates! Anyway, I will continue to carry out this ritual to satisfy my beloved friend's sweet tooth.

Submitted by: Linda Haluska, a GRS member from Willow Springs, Illinois.

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I was wondering if anyone could help explain an experience I had eight years ago.

There was a cemetery in Garder, Massachusetts that my roommate and I used to walk to a lot. It was never scary, even at night. It was more like a park. To get there we'd usually take a short cut along the railroad tracks. About twenty-five feet before an overpass covered the tracks, there was a path about twenty-five feet up a hill that lead to the far end of the oldest part of the cemetery.

One day we were walking there on the railroad tracks, when about thirty feet before the overpass we both froze in our tracks. Neither of us spoke a word. We couldn't see anything, but both of us felt the strongest wave of fear and terror. We both ran up the path to the cemetery. In the middle of the cemetery we sat down for a minute. Then we both felt something coming towards us. I looked over to the area we had just come from. It was like a large, invisible cloud coming along the ground towards us. It was so strong, that I could see it. It was pure evil. We immediately left by the rear entrance.

My friend thinks that someone must have been performing rituals or sacrifices under the overpass. We both think that someone or something would have tried to kill us if we went under there.

The cemetery has been creepy ever since that day.

Submitted by: Cara Marie Silverbird of New Orleans, Louisiana.

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I'm not sure that the story I am about to relate has to do with *ghosts*, but I suppose that, in the right light, it could. On the morning of October 18, 1996, at 6:40 a.m., I had a most peculiar thing happen. I was awakened from a deep-sleep dream by the sensation that I was being choked. It felt as though there was something heavy pressing down on me. I was laying on my back with my head turned to the left, and I *absolutely* could not move. Believe me, I was trying



very hard! Twice, I choked out the words, “what the hell is going on?” I could see that it was beginning to get light outside through my pull-down shade. Then, I had a tremendously overpowering sensation that something was standing near my bed, looking down at me from my right side. I still could not move. What still sticks in my mind most is what happened next. An icy wind began to move across my face from right to left. The wind got stronger and colder, then suddenly faded away. I then felt that there was a large, floating object--for lack of any better word--in the corner to my right by my door. I could sense a feeling of hatred and anger emanating from this object. Then, as sudden as it had come, the object was gone. I could physically feel myself being released from whatever it was that held me. I began to sweat profusely, and my whole body began to tingle, like your arm or leg does when it falls asleep.

I laid there for quite some time thinking about what happened, and trying to figure out a logical explanation. The first thing that came to mind was this thought: when that icy wind passed over my face, it felt as though somebody’s spirit has passed through mine. I have no idea why I thought this, but at the time it seemed like a logical explanation. Nothing even remotely similar has happened to me before, and I simply cannot come up with an explanation. I would like to know if any of your readers have experienced such phenomena.

Another strange thing happened to my brother not long before this took place. He was lying asleep in bed when he was jolted awake by the sensation of being pushed off the bed. He says that he laid on the floor for a second or two, confused by what had just happened. Then, he says, a bright light came down on him from above, and moved up and down his body, causing a tingling sensation. He says that he could hear a very strange humming sound, and it seemed like something was going to happen, but then whatever it was that was making the humming sound “malfunctioned”, and the humming stopped. He says that he was then *lifted up from the floor* and returned to his bed, and he could feel the sensation of moving in his stomach. He says the whole thing was very real, and that the tingling sensation continued for some time after he had been returned to his bed.

Also, recently, I had another strange occurrence in the wee hours of the morning. I was laying awake in my bed, and I had just awakened from a dream. Suddenly, a very bright light clicked on, roughly for three seconds, then clicked off. My eyes were closed, and the light was red through my eyelids (if you close your eyes and look into a bright light, it will look red--probably because of the blood in your eyelids). The “click” when the light turned on and off was very sharp, loud and distinct. I got up and clicked all the lights on and off in my house, trying to find a switch that sounded like the “click” I’d heard. Not one of the switches made a “click” like the one I heard! I guess I’ll chock this up to my imagination, but I’m not sure...

Submitted by: Christopher Roberts, GRS member from Billings, Montana.

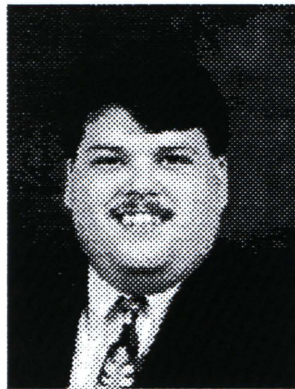
# OUR LADY OF CONYERS

*Todd Womack*

There have literally been thousands of supposed manifestations of the Virgin Mary around the globe for centuries. Most paranormalists have heard of the more celebrated cases like the one in Guadalupe, Mexico in 1531; or Lourdes, France in 1858; and the well-known Fatima, Portugal appearance in 1917. More recently, apparitions of Mary have taken place in the mountain village of Medjugorje in the former Yugoslavia. Those sightings, which began in June of 1981, have transformed the sleepy hamlet into a bustling religious center and a tourist hotspot.

In the United States over the last decade Marian manifestations have increased significantly. She has supposedly put in appearances in Texas in 1988, in Florida in 1994, and in Kentucky in 1995. The most attended vision of late appears in Georgia.

Conyers is the home of unemployed women living on a capital in Atlanta. Since receiving messages and visions These messages were originally out on to her front porch to tell had said to her as she sat in her been more or less the same, etc. and it is important to point



Nancy Fowler, a middle-aged small farm only 30 miles from the state October of 1990, Fowler has been from Mary in the comfort of her den. coming monthly and Fowler would step the ever-growing crowds what Mary recliner. The messages have always "God love you" and "Heed his words", out that she is the ONLY one to see or

hear Mary. No one else in the vast crowds saw anything for almost three years, they just waited in the rain or the burning Georgia summer heat for Fowler to make her brief announcement. By the spring of 1994, thousands of believers were coming to Conyers every month by car, van and busload. They were overrunning the rural farmland around Fowler's home. Neighbors complained of the noise, the huge traffic jams, the trash and the strangers that camped out on their farms without permission. People passed out from the heat, dehydration and religious fervor every month. Vendors appeared hawking everything from religious trinkets to bottled water. A small gift/book shop suddenly opened on Fowler's property, as well as several donation boxes. Holy "shrines", for lack of a better word, popped up with statues of Jesus surrounded by flowers and shrubbery.

Then in May of 1994, Nancy Fowler announced that Mary would return only on October 13<sup>th</sup> each year. Some have said this was due to the threat of lawsuits brought against her by her neighbors. The date itself is of some importance to Marian Phenomena researchers. For it was on October 13<sup>th</sup> back in 1917 when the Fatima "Miracle" ended. It was also during early 1994



that people began reporting that they were seeing things in the sky above Fowler's house. Some have seen the face of Jesus or Mary, but more often (95% of the time) odd "golden lights" and a wobbling Sun are spotted. After questioning however, the witnesses to these events did say that they had been staring at the Sun because they expected something to happen.

After drawing only 12,000 plus in 1995, apparently a low-key ad campaign was unleashed to remind everyone of October 13<sup>th</sup>. It worked. Over 60,000 of the faithful from all over the U.S. arrived to hear the annual message that Mary was "still concerned people (were) not heading the messages and offending God" and "as your loving Mother, please know that God has sent me to help you. Please amend your ways." Then after condemning abortion and euthanasia as "evils of mankind", it was over. Those who were in attendance went home comforted and joy-filled and some had a very long way to go home. One Hispanic man had driven all the way from Miami, Florida in a van with eight others the night before. After driving for 15 ½ hours straight, they had arrived in Conyers at 6:30 am. Two of the van's occupants said that they had seen Mary's face on a traffic sign as they turned down Highway 138 to the Fowler farm.

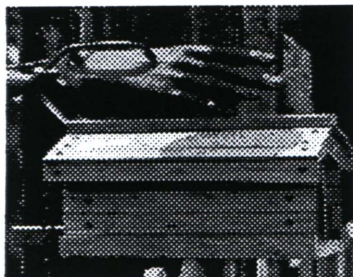
Almost everyone who has seen visions of Mary or Jesus and strange lights in the sky there, went to Conyers expecting, perhaps unconsciously, to see something. They had a very real need, a spiritual desire to have an encounter with the Virgin Mary. Anyone who stares at the Sun will have a "vision" that is caused by the intense sunlight damaging your retina leaving an afterimage appearing before you for several seconds or longer. Also, the visions as a whole could fall into the category of encounter phenomena as projections from the subconscious based on the aforementioned need.

Those desires will no doubt cause thousands of the believers to return to Nancy Fowler's farm in Conyers next October 13<sup>th</sup> where they will be greeted with the same message that has been told now for six years. Maybe next year though there might be a new snackbar.

Submitted by: Todd Womack, Georgia State Coordinator, 108 W. Franklin St., Douglas, GA. 31533.

# *The Twilight Zone House of Mayport, FL.*

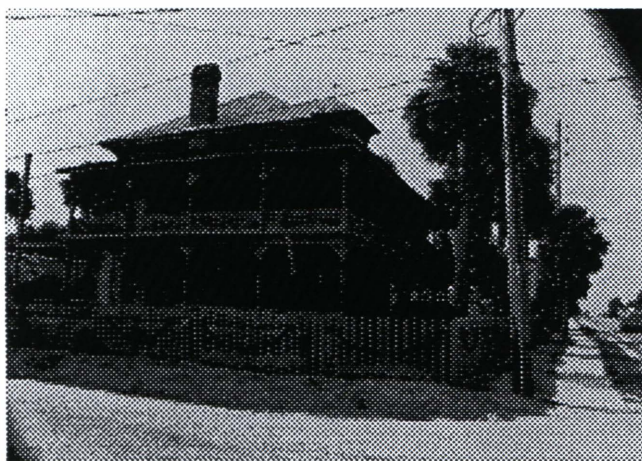
*Lee Holloway*



The old-fashion wooden mailbox is topped by a ghastly wrought-iron human hand reminiscent of "Thing" on TV's *The Adams Family*; an unpainted picket fence--with ghoulishly squeaking gate, of course--spans the perimeter of the property; and the sign above the front door reads: "You are now entering THE TWILIGHT ZONE."

The weather-beaten edifice with its two-story porch at 4627 Ocean Street dominates the tiny seaside village of Mayport in northeast Florida, and is the best known "haunted house" in the area. It is called the W.J. King House, although King himself did not build it. It was in 1880 that King sailed from Delaware to Mayport aboard a schooner on which he served as cook. Upon arrival, he met 16-year-old Clara Arnau, who lived in her father's big house on Ocean Street. It was love at first sight and following their marriage, the couple made their home in the house of Clara's father. After the passage of some years, locals began referring to the place as the "King House" and so it has been known ever since.

It was not until after the death of the elder King that the place gained its haunted reputation. John Franklin King, the son of W.J. King and Clara, lived in the house his entire life until his death in 1940 and it was the younger King who first had an encounter with the supernatural--or at least the first who talked about it. He regaled the villagers with tales of the ghost of an old man appeared on the stairs, of the sea that often tongued hussies who could be seen and heard on the upper porch.



least the first who talked the villagers with tales of the ghost of an old man appeared on the stairs, tongued hussies who *heard* on the upper

Following the the old house fell widely believed to be notoriety, various site. In fact, in 1968, Foundation of Carolina, conducted

younger King's death, into disrepair, was haunted, and as it gained ghost hunters visited the the *Psychical Research Chapel Hill, North* an investigation and the

British medium, Douglas Johnston, officially pronounced the place haunted. He said the apparition responsible for the disturbances was a music-loving, stubby-bearded seaman of somewhat below average height.



Because of its confirmed haunted reputation, no one wanted to live there, but before the demolition crew arrived, the creepy old dwelling was rescued by attorney Al Millar who managed to convert it into an office building and still maintain its eerie appearance. In fact, some say the place looks spookier than ever. Millar's law offices are located in the building and employees, clients and visitors have reported various inexplicable incidents including strange knocks and scrapings, wraiths on the stairway, and the phantom voices of raucous women coming from the balcony.

The King House is a fully-operational--albeit weird--law firm, open weekdays during normal business hours.

Submitted by: Lee Holloway, member of GRS, from Jacksonville, Florida.



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## Who Killed My Daughter?

(the true story of a mother's spiritual journey)  
by  
Lois Duncan:

*"What a story! A tragic story for sure, but also a celebration of the psyche as it stretches beyond time and space to encompass loved ones!"*

Dr. William Roll, Research Director, Psychical Research Foundation

Lois Duncan is an award-winning author of young adult suspense novels involving psychic phenomena, but she considered her stories fantasy until she found herself living every parent's worst nightmare. When, in July, 1989, Duncan's teenage daughter Kait was chased down and shot to death, the horrified mother was forced to confront the fact that multiple details about the murder, including the name of the man who would be arrested, had appeared in a book she had written just prior to Kait's death.

Duncan's view of the world would never be the same.

"When Kait's boyfriend stabbed himself, our oldest daughter went to a psychic to find out if his suicide attempt was caused by grief or guilt," she says. "She returned with detailed information, channeled from Kait (and later verified), including the fact that the boyfriend had been involved in illegal activities that Kait had been threatening to expose."

"When the police investigation proved inadequate, our family consulted the top psychic detectives in the nation. Using telepathy, psychometry, and automatic writing, all told us the exact same story, and one even drew a picture of Kait's killer. But what caused me, personally, to accept what I had formerly thought impossible, was the messages that came directly from Kait, not only in dreams but audibly when I was awake. Today I have no doubt but that the soul retains consciousness after the death of the physical body and has the ability to continue to communicate with loved ones."

### Critics comment about who Killed My Daughter?:

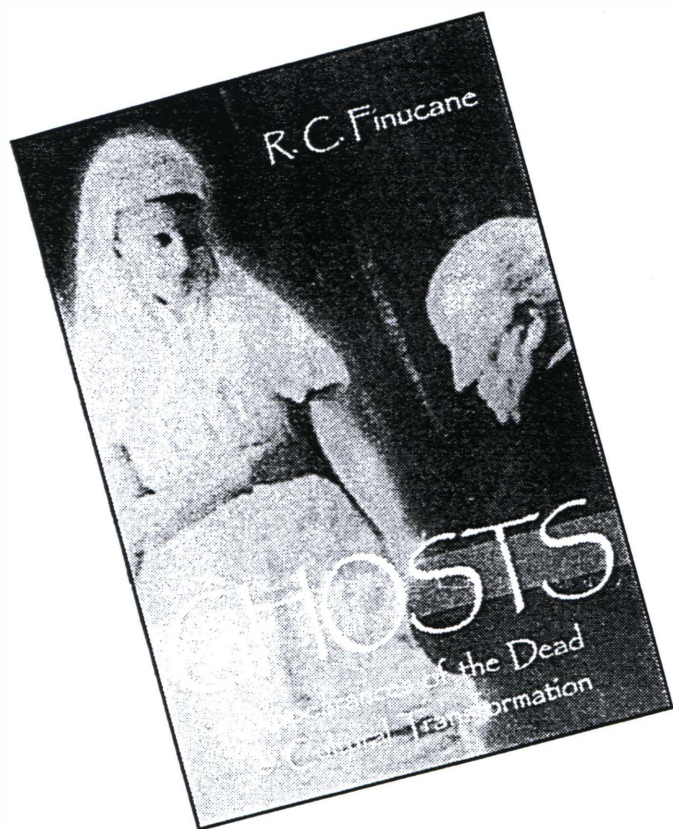
"... heartbreaking and utterly fascinating ... The most amazing aspect of the investigation is Duncan's involvement with the psychics and the fifteen readings they collectively gave her." *The Detroit News*

"Powerful ... moving ... I read a while, then cried a while. Then, as if compelled to do so, I picked up the book and began reading again." *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*

"Riveting from page one ... Do not turn up your nose at the psychic element. While their approaches are off-beat, the three psychics give Duncan real clues to her daughter's sometimes dangerous lifestyle." *Connecticut Post*

"Duncan's forays into the realm of psychics and dreams are downright eerie." *The Plain Dealer (Cleveland)*

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# Ghosts

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by R.C. Finucane

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## Spirit Photography Page

I thought you might be interested in taking a look at this photo. I took it in January 1996 during an investigation in Huntsburg, Sussex County, N.J. The family had been experiencing general haunting activity in the house since they moved in in 1961 (footsteps, voices, floating balls of light, occasional visual apparition). In the 1980s and 90s the activity took on more of a poltergeist flavor, with household and personal, objects disappearing and reappearing, and a couple of incidents where a family member was pinned and forcibly held down in bed by an invisible force, leaving bruise marks. In one event, she was laying in bed and heard raspy breathing sounds behind her head. Terrified, she slowly reached back and felt "something" covered with thick, coarse animal-like hair. (She fled the room without looking).

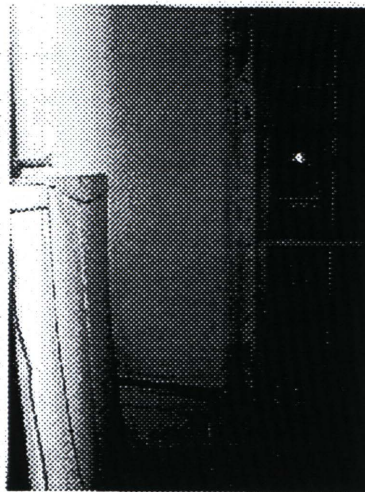
When I was there in January with a crew from *Sightings*, the psychic they brought in said she sensed an "angry animal" type entity roaming the house.

The enclosed photo was taken in a small closet-like room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, where I was picking up some unusual EM effects on my Tri-Field meter. Nothing unusual was visible when I took the photo. I only noticed the image when the shots were printed.

In the lower left portion of the window panes there is what looks like an animal head/face looking in the window from outside. It looks sort of like a cross between a bear and "ALF" (from the TV show). It seems to have a distinct snout with nostrils, eyes with ridged eyebrows and pointy ears. The window is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, with a sheer drop outside the window, so it could not have actually been a real animal outside. There are no trees outside the window, and there was an intense snowstorm going on

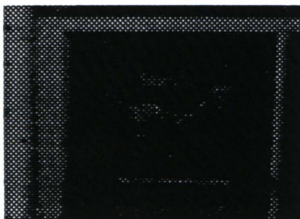
I found the image the "wild animal" impressions of (experiences/impressions they course, it could just be an pattern on the glass. Perhaps would be interesting to know if (indicative of frost/condensation) (indicative of...?)

Camera/film info:  
zoom lens setting between  
shot (bright reflection of flash is  
Film: Kodak Tri-X, ASA 400.  
(camera on auto-exposure



outside (the Blizzard of '96). interesting, especially in light of the homeowner and the psychic had **before** I took the photo). Of unusual frost or condensation you could analyze the photo. It its a flat image on the glass or if its three-dimensional

Olympus OM2 (N) 35mm SLR,  
35mm-50mm, strobe illuminated  
visible in center window pane).  
Exposure info: Not recorded  
mode).



Enlargement

Submitted by: Randy Liebeck, NJ State Coordinator, PO Box 756,  
Totowa, NJ. 07511-0756.



Rough sketch

Seeing Ghosts  
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# BOOK REVIEWS

**The Bell Witch by Brent Monahan (St. Martins Press, 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY. 10010, 1997, 208 pages, hardcover, \$20.95, ISBN:0-312-15061-x)**

Another book, you say about the infamous *Bell Witch*, not so! Although I've read many renditions of this most famous story concerning the plight of the Bell family in the early part of the last century, this one is the best version to come out yet. I really felt as though I was a part of the family myself. The author made you a part of the story in his writing. It's told through the eyes of Richard Powell who was an actual eye witness to the many paranormal events that occurred between 1817-1821. It's an actual account written to his daughter and to be opened upon his death.

I had always thought that the *Bell Witch* was most likely some demon raised from hell that had tormented the family and future generations of the Bell's. This book, apparently a true eye witness account, has changed my mind as to the actual cause of that strange phenomena. I won't spoil it for you by telling you the outcome of the story. You'll just have to read that for yourself.

It's well written and easy to read without any embellishments. I found it quite hard to put down and highly recommend it to those interested in the Bell's dilemma. Rated a 7 in a 1-10 scale.

Reviewed by: Dale Kaczmarek

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**Dealing With Ghosts by Rob Conover (Conover Paranormal Investigations, PO Box 1263, Pekin, IL. 61554, 1996, 21 pages, \$5.95, booklet)**

A rather small booklet that I first discovered in Fate Magazine. You can also purchase a video tape entitled *Dealing With Ghosts* for \$19.95 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling which contains one of Mr. Conover's lectures and some actual footage shot on locations where ghosts inhabited homes or businesses. I purchased that the same time I bought his booklet but at press time, I did not have time to view or review the tape for this edition of the newsletter. I will have a review of the video tape in the next issue.

Being an investigator, Mr. Conover apparently relies heavily on his strong religious beliefs and background. He carries his Bible with him on all investigations and tries to make the spirit move on through his religious convictions. Apparently using only still and video cameras to document and investigate with, Mr. Conover apparently tells people "don't be impressed by a lot of gadgetry. While each investigator uses different tools, the most important tool is the investigator's sincerity." I believe tools and gadgets are an integral part of any investigation as it helps to rule out possible natural explanations.

I have never met Mr. Conover personally so I can't speak for him but his book does need a bit of fine-tuning because I don't believe you need a strong religious background or belief in such to be a fine paranormal investigator, just an open mind! Rated a 4 in a 1-10 scale.

Reviewed by: Dale Kaczmarek

**Sightings: Beyond Imagination Lies the Truth by Susan Michaels (Fireside, Rockefeller Center, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY. 10020, 1996, softbound, \$11.00, 269 pages, ISBN: 0-684-82369-1)**

Based on the amazingly successful TV series on unexplained phenomena, this book is almost a verbatim retelling of the segments that appeared on the television series. It includes some of the most famous episodes including: the Heartland ghost story, the real *Entity* case, ghost writer (where the instamatic cameras picking up strange spirit messages), Hell's Gate (Bobby Mackey's Music World in Wilder, Kentucky) and the Ghosts of Gettysburg (which I appeared in with a *Sightings* crew).

The book is divided into three sections: Hauntings, UFOs and The Unexplained. For those who missed any of episodes on the show, this book is for you. Lots of pictures from the show accompany the stories and it has a rather interesting cover design. Three video tapes are also available (\$14.95 retail) on The Ghost Report, The Psychic Experience and The UFO Report (1-800-555-9752).

A highly entertaining book and a must for fans of the series. *Sightings* can also be reached on America Online at Keyword: Sightings or on the Dominion at [www.sci.fi/sightings](http://www.sci.fi/sightings). Rated an 8 in a 1-10 scale.

Reviewed by: Dale Kaczmarek

\*\*\*\*\*

**Echoes Of Valor by Nannette Morrison (Bookwrights of Charlottesville, 2522 Willard Dr., Charlottesville, VA. 22903, 804-296-0686, 1994, softbound, 172 pages, ISBN: 1-880404-09-5)**



Author Nannette Morrison is a holistic health practitioner, massage therapist and psychic. This is her third book and it deals with the connection between the paranormal and the Civil War. Which are two of my favorite topics. The book isn't regional but travels are around different civil war sites including: Fort Washington, Gettysburg, Sailor's Creek, Chickamauga, Bentonville, South Mountain, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Fort Warren, Point Lookout, Bull Run, Fort Riley, Cold Harbor, Libby Prison and Glorietta Pass. It also talks about participants of the Civil War including Gen. Armistead and others.

My only complaint about the book was that there was too much emphasis on past-life experiences and reincarnation than actual ghost sites and experiences. While I find past-life and reincarnation somewhat interesting, it isn't what I would expect in a book about Civil War ghosts as I assumed that this was. Not knocking Ms. Morrison's writing or research skills, I personally would have liked less attention paid to past-life and reincarnation experiences and much more to actual ghost sightings and/or experiences.

Nicely illustrated with several rather curious ghost photographs, some of which I had a hard time locating the ghost in the photographs. But nonetheless, a nice touch. Rated a 6 in a 1-



10 scale.

Reviewed by: Dale Kaczmarek

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**Haunted Asheville by Joshua P. Warren (Shadowbox Publications, PO Box 16801, Asheville, NC. 28816, 1996, softbound, 173 pages, \$14.95, ISBN: 0-9649370-2-6)**

I first heard about this book when I was contacted by a representative of the Grove Park Inn which wanted to have this establishment listed in my *National Directory of Haunted Locations* and would I please send them information regarding that. Soon after, I received a review copy of this book by Mr. Warren. The main investigation and story does center on the Grove Park Inn and their ghost, *The Pink Lady*. Besides all the extensive work and research into the history of the place, Mr. Warren had considerable interviews with eye witnesses and some personal experiences to relate including their investigative work while in the inn. There are a number of paranormal photographs as well as pictures of other researchers and some of the equipment that they used during their investigations.

The book also talks about other sites around Asheville including WLOS TV (next door to the Grove Park Inn), Erwin High School, Battery Park Hotel, The Reed House, Helen's Bridge and Zealandia, Buncombe County Jail and others.

One statement I did find a bit confusing was a caption under a picture on page 119 which states: "It is this pool table where a spectral game is sometimes played. Note: This is an infrared photograph. *Since it does not detect visible light*(editor's italics), all but one of the balls appears solid white." Being an expert in infrared photography for over 25 years, I must disagree that infrared does address and pick up visible light and only a very small segment of infrared light usually between 600-900 nanometers. A nanometer is a billionth of a meter. Unless you're using an visually opaque infrared filter #87C, you will still pick up visible light. I'm not sure what the author was using. An ordinary red filter #25 is recommended with infrared film but that only blocks out the red light.

Besides this minor error (if in fact it is) the book is excellent! Highly recommended!!  
Rated a 9 in 1-10 scale.

Reviewed by: Dale Kaczmarek

#####  
**Haunted Ohio III by Chris Woodyard (Kestrel Publications, 1811 Stonewood Dr., Beavercreek, OH. 45432, 800-31-GHOST, 1994, softbound, 213 pages, \$10.95, ISBN: 0-9628472-2-4)**

The third in the *Haunted Ohio* series by GRS member Chris Woodyard. Each one just seems to get better and better with more frightfully good stories and great places to visit while in the Buckeye State. The book is nicely arranged by category such as: haunted homes, psychic images and sounds, haunted stairways, ghost lights, haunted workplaces, infested objects, Men in Black, haunted waterways and ghosts in theaters, hospitals, clinics, roads, highways, cemeteries and Franklin Castle among others.

There is a small section devoted to mini-tales of the macabre and sites open to the general





researching and writings of Antonio Garcez. From his first book to this most recent one, Mr. Garcez's writings have continued to fascinate and inform me and I hope he would consider expanding his research beyond it's current boundaries because he mentions in the introduction that this is the final book in the *Adobe Angels* series.

I would like to see more books written by Mr. Garcez who has just continued to improve in quality and quantity. This book is simply broken down into various cities and he tells the stories related to those locations. I found this his most interesting book yet and that's a tough statement considering his wonderful previous writings. Don't pass this one up! Rated a 7 in a 1-10 scale.

Reviewed by: Dale Kaczmarek

@ @

**Haunted Decatur by Troy Taylor (Whitechapel Productions, PO Box 11, Forsyth, Illinois, 62535, 217-875-2366, 1995, softbound, \$12.95, 188 pages)**

The first in a series of numerous books written by Mr. Taylor about downstate Decatur, Illinois who is also a GRS member. I first met Mr. Taylor while on a research trip to Decatur with several members of the GRS. He was nice enough to take us around to several haunted sites and since he has joined as a member.

Several of the sites wrote about in *Haunted Decatur*, we had a chance to visit while we were in Decatur including: Greenwood Cemetery, the Avon and Lincoln Theater and Peck Cemetery. While we did get some unusual readings at these sites, apparently nothing showed up photographically.

Since that time, Mr. Taylor has written three other books which will be reviewed in upcoming editions of GT newsletter. I especially found the stories concerning Peck and Greenwood cemeteries to be fascinating probably due to the fact that I'm a cemetery roamer myself. The strange ghost lights usually observed in Greenwood Cemetery is something that has intrigued me enough to perhaps plan another visit in the near future to that spot.

An extensive part of the book deals with a place known as Hell Hollow which I found to be quite interesting as well. Mr. Taylor's books and new video can be purchased through Whitechapel Productions and all GRS members receive 20% off their order. You can't beat that! An excellent first book by Mr. Taylor and highly recommended! Rated a 7 in a 1-10 scale.

Reviewed by: Dale Kaczmarek

**Appalachian Ghost Stories and Other Tales by James Gay Jones (McClain Printing Company, Parsons, West Virginia, 26287, 1975, softbound, \$10.00, 109 pages)**

A small collection of folklore, folktales and ghost stories from the Appalachia region of the United States. Mostly short stories of only a few pages but interesting nonetheless. Stories on headless ghosts, confederate soldiers, wizards, witches, green monsters and other entertaining stories in the tradition of the folktale. Probably hard to find but easy to read. Rated a 4 in a 1-10 scale. Reviewed by: Dale Kaczmarek

# Classified

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